

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 24678 241102Z

10

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 OMB-01 /062 W

----- 004787

R 240816Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4690

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COMUSMACTHAI BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 24678

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ASEAN, TH, MY, SN, ID, RP

SUBJ: THAI MFA OFFICERS AT KUALA LUMPUR ASEAN SENIOR OFFICIALS  
MEETING

SUMMARY: THE ASEAN SENIOR OFFICIALS WHO MET IN KUALA LUMPUR  
FM NOV 11-14 DISCUSSED THE NEUTRALIZATION SCHEME AND  
THE ISSUES TO BE FORWARDED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE  
SCHEDULED FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF JAN, 1976, AND THE SUBSE-  
QUENT SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN INDONESIA. END SUMMARY.

1. AM EMBASSY OFFICER MET NOV 18 WITH NIT PHIBUNSONGKHRAM,  
NEW CHIEF OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIA DIVISION OF MFA, AND SAWANIT  
KONGSIRI OF MFA'S POLICY PLANNING DIVISION. THE FOLLOWING IS  
THEIR ACCOUNT OF THE NOV 11-14 ASEAN SENIOR OFFICIALS  
MEETING IN KUALA LUMPUR AND THEIR INSIGHTS REGARDING THE  
JAN 76 ASEAN SUMMITHCONFERENCE. NIT BEGAIN BY EXPLAINING  
THAT THE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING IN KUALA LUMPUR WAS  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 24678 241102Z

REALLY A WORKING GROUP LOOKING TOWARD FINALIZING ALL PRO-

POSLAS TO BE PRESENTED FIRST AT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS;  
CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF JAN IN  
THAILAND, SO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS CAN "STAMP" THE PROPOSALS  
AND THE AGENDA FOR THE SUMMIT MEETING TO BE HELD IN INDONESIA  
SOME TEN DAYS AFTER THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S CONFERENCE.

2. NIT SAID THE NEUTRALIZATION PROPOSAL WAS THE MAIN TOPPC  
OF DISCUSSION AT THE KUALA LUMPUR MEETING. THE SENIOR  
OFFICIALS DISCUSSED WHETHER IT IS NOW TIME FOR ASEAN AS A  
WHOLE TO DECLARE PUBLICLY WHAT NEUTRALIZATION IS; WHAT  
THAT CONCEPT CONSISTUTES FOR THE AREA ENVISIONED TO BE  
COVERED; AND WHAT THE ASEAN MEMBER COUNTRIES EXPECT FROM  
OTHER COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY FROM THE FOUR GREAT POWERS INSO-  
FAR AS RECOGNITION AND RESPECT FOR THE NEUTRALIZATION PRO-  
POSAL IS CONCERNED. THE ASEAN COUNTRIES APPARENTLY ARE  
NO LONGER CONSIDERING GUARANTEES FROM THE SUPERPOWERS.

3. NIT SAID THE THAI DELEGATION HAD SUGGESTED THE TEXT OF  
SUCH A PUBLIC DECLARATION, AND THE CONSENSUS AT THE  
KUALA LUMPUR MEETING WAS GENERALLY AGREEABLE TO THE TEXT. HE ADDED  
THAT WHILE SUCH A PUBLIC DECLARATION WILL BE PROPTSED TO  
THE FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE FOR SUBMISSION TO THE  
SUMMIT MEETING, APPROVAL AND THE TIMING OF SUCH A DECLARA-  
TION MUST BE LEFT TO THE SUMMIT.

4. NIT SAID THE THAI PAPER LISTED ALL PROGRESS MADE ON  
THE NEUTRALIZATION PROPOSAL OVER THE YEARS. IT ALSO  
SPELLED OUT THE NEED FOR A RESPONSE TO BOTH INTERNAL AND  
EXTERNAL THREATS OR AGGRESSION AGAINST THE NEUTRALIZED  
ZONE, AND POSSIBLE OPTIONS FOR ASEAN. ACCORDING TO NIT,  
THE SENIOR OFFICIALS AGREED THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO SPELL OUT  
ALL THE POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF THE AREA'S NEUTRALITY,  
HENCE, IT WAS ALSO IMPOSSIBLE TO INCLUDE IN THE  
NEUTRALIZATION CHARTER ALL POSSIBLE WAYS TO DEAL WITH  
SUCH INFRACTIONS. THEREFORE, ONLY THE GE ERAL OPTIONS WERE  
SET FORTH ON WHAT ASEAN COUNCILS COULD BE CALLED UPON TO  
CONSIDER DEFENSIVE ACTIONS.

5. NIT SAID ALL DELEGATIONS ARE NOW REVISING THE WORDING  
OF THE VARIOUS CHAPTERS OF THE DECLARATION TO BE WORKED INTO  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BANGKO 24678 241102Z

A REPORT AT ANOTHER MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIALS, OR WORK-  
ING-GROUP OFFICIALS, AT THE END OF NOV IN JAKARTA.  
THIS REPORT WILL GO TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING FOR  
APPROVAL, AND THENCE TO THE SUMMIT MEETING.

6. ACCORDING TO SAWANIT, THE SUMMIT MEETING WILL CONSIDER  
THE NEUTRALITY DECLARATION AND APPROVE THE CHARTER (THE  
TREATY OF AMITY AND COOPERATION) OF ASEAN, WHICH INCLUDES

THE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, SOCIAL, AND CULTURAL FRAHEWORK AND RESPONSIBILITIES. THE SUMMIT WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF ASEAN--ITS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS. THE SUMMIT CONFEREES WOULD PROBABLY ALSO DISCUSS THE SITUATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, BUT IT PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE AN AGENDA TOPIC.

5. BOTH NIT AND SAWANIT SAID THAT THE SENIOR OFFICIALS HAD SHIED AWAY FROM DISCUSSING THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF THE SECURITY ASPECTS OF THE NEUTRALIZATION PROPOSAL. ALTHOUGH THEY REALIZE THT SECURITY IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF NEUTRALIZATION, AND ALTHOUGH SOME PAPERS ON SECURITY MATTERS WERE TABLED FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE MEETING, SECURITY WAS NOT GENERALLY DISCUSSED AND THE DELEGATIONS PREFERRED TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION AT A LATER DATE.

6. BOTH OFFICIALS ALSO DISCOUNTED THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CALL LAST SPRING FOR THE ASEAN SUMMIT MEETING AND THE NORTH VIETNAMESE TRIUMPH IN INDOCHINA. THEY SAID THE SUMMIT WAS THE NATURAL CULMINATION OF NINE YEARS OF GROUNDWORK AND A LOGICAL STEP TOWARDS FURTHER PROGRESS IN ASEAN.

7. COMMENT: PROGRESS FROM THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES TO THE SPECIFIC ACTIONS COMES EXCEEDINGLY SLOWLY IN ASEAN. ONE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT ALL THE CAUTIOUS EFFORT, CARE AND CONCERN WILL PROVE TO BE ASEAN'S STRENGTH. OTHERWISE, SUCH A RATE OF INACTION COULD PROVE TO BE ITS UNDOING.  
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC INTEGRATION, SUMMIT MEETINGS, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BANGKO24678  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750408-0798  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751117/aaaaaooa.tel  
**Line Count:** 144  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THAI MFA OFFICERS AT KUALA LUMPUR ASEAN SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING  
**TAGS:** PFOR, TH, MY, SN, ID, RP, ASEAN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006